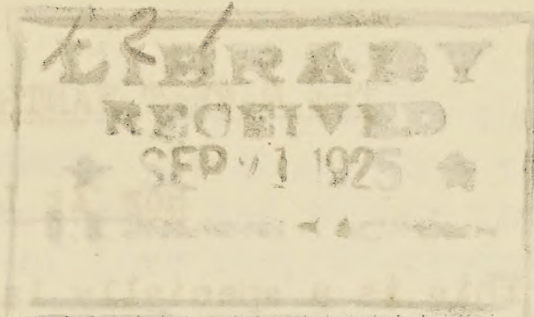


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service

Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit

THE MARKET WANTS CHOICE LAMBS

A large scenic booth exhibit showing indisputable evidence that it pays to raise choice lambs rather than common lambs.

Specifications

Floor space - - - - - 37 feet front, 6
Wall space - - - - - None. (feet deep.
Shipping weight - - - - - 1494 lbs.
Electrical Requirements - 110 volt A.C.
current. Exhibit has 5 circuits.
800 watts needed for lights and
small motor.

THE MARKET WANTS CHOICE LAMBS

How It Looks

This is a specially large booth exhibit being 37 feet across the front. A special electrical scenic device is placed at the extreme left and constitutes the end section. In this device are a number of colored transparencies which are alternately illuminated from behind for a few seconds at a time. As each picture is illuminated a shaft of light, terminating in a spear-head point runs from the center of the section to the particular picture which is about to be lighted up.

The center of the exhibit tells why the market wants choice lambs, which is done by means of accurately colored life-size cut-outs of good and poor lambs on the hoof, or by live lambs where such animals can be obtained. The carcasses are shown by cut-outs. The right section contains two rams, a good one and a scrub, placed in two inset boxes and shown alternately by means of "winking" lights. Two other enlarged, colored pictures and short legends are presented on this section.

What It Tells

In cooperation with the agricultural experiment stations of Indiana and Kentucky the Department is presenting some figures that show why choice lambs are worth more to the consumer and bring more profit to the producer than common lambs.

On one side of the exhibit is shown a choice market lamb sired by a purebred ram. The lamb has been docked and castrated, is free from parasites, and is well developed and finished. Sale records show that lambs grading choice brought 13.2 cents a pound on the Chicago market during the month of October, 1924. On the other side is a common market lamb of scrub breeding, apparently infested with stomach worms, lacking in size, thin in condition, undocked and not castrated. During October, 1924, lambs grading common averaged 10.1 cents a pound on the Chicago market. This gives the choice lamb an advantage of 3.1 cents a pound.

The choice carcass shown represents a choice lamb that dressed 52 per cent. It shows that the meat of a choice carcass is thick and it has the characteristic appearance of lamb that is tender, juicy, of good flavor and attractive. Choice lamb carcasses on the Chicago market during October, 1924, averaged 21.8 cents a pound. The common carcass represents a common lamb that dressed only 43 per cent. It has the appearance of lamb that is tough, dry, of poor flavor and unattractive. Lamb carcasses grading common on the Chicago market during October, 1924, averaged 15.4 cents a pound. Choice lamb carcasses therefore averaged 6.4 cents a pound more than the common carcasses.

Photographs suggest practices that are essential to the production of good lambs including the use of purebred rams of good quality, provision of abundant pastures for the flock, feeding the lambs grain when necessary, prevention and treatment of parasites, docking all lambs and castrating the market ram lambs. A picture is also shown of a flock of scrub lambs that averaged only 36 pounds on the market and brought only 3 cents a pound and beside this picture of scrubs is shown a photograph of choice lambs sired by purebred rams. These choice lambs averaged 82 pounds and brought 16-1/2 cents a pound on the market.

Where to Get Information

The following publications may be obtained free of charge from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Farmers' Bulletin 840 - Farm Sheep Raising for Beginners

Farmers' Bulletin 1134 - Castrating and Docking Lambs

